



GOTHAM CITY:

YEAR ONE

ISSUE # 4

TOM KING
PHIL HESTER
ERIC GAPSTUR
JORDIE BELLAIRE



GO BEYOND THE ANIMATED SERIES
WITH THIS THRILLING NEXT CHAPTER!

BATMAN

THE ADVENTURES CONTINUE
SEASON THREE

WRITTEN BY

ALAN
BURNETT

PAUL
DINI

ART BY

JORDAN
GIBSON

KEVIN
ALTIERI

TY
TEMPLETON

GRAPHIC NOVEL
COLLECTIONS
ALSO AVAILABLE:



BATMAN:
THE ADVENTURES
CONTINUE
SEASON ONE



BATMAN:
THE ADVENTURES



A NEW
7-ISSUE
SERIES

The BLADE

Gotham, March 15, 1961.

PRINCESS HELEN MURDERED!



Gotham PD confirmed today that the body of Helen Wayne, daughter of leading Gotham industrialist Richard Wayne, was discovered buried in the yard of a row house on the South Side. Police are investigating every lead linked to the horrid crime but currently do not have a definitive answer as to who harmed the girl widely known as the Princess of Gotham.

Rumors abound that Helen was being held as part of an elaborate kidnapping scheme aimed at procuring a piece of...

After I found her, I called the cops.

I told them everything I knew, and they asked me back to the station.

A few hours later, the news splashed across the evening edition.

A few hours after
that, my blood
followed it.

CRACKK



The commissioner himself gave me this punishment.

GV

YOU LIED TO US THE WHOLE WAY, SLAM!

They don't do that for every purse snatcher and jaywalker.

Most guys get a desk cop, maybe a detective for a murder.

AND NOW WHAT THE HELL DO WE HAVE?! A COLORED GIRL OFF SOMEWHERE WITH ENOUGH MONEY TO RUN TO TIMBUKTU?!

THIS POOR, BROKEN CITY IS IN MOURNING, AND WE'RE ALREADY DAYS BEHIND!

YOU COULDN'T HAVE DONE WHAT ANY HALF-DECENT PERSON WOULD'VE DONE AND LET THE ACTUAL AUTHORITIES DO OUR JOBS?!

WE COULD'VE STOPPED THIS, YOU ARROGANT @%*%#!

KRNK

NVING

No, you had to do something real bad for the big guy to bother getting his shoes dirty punting them into your side.

THAT CHILD IS DEAD!

THAT CHILD WAS @%*%*% MURDERED!

Hell, it was almost an honor.

BECAUSE OF YOU!

KRNK



They kept me in lockup for a few days.

Charged with lying to the police, which isn't really on the books, but if you say it loud enough and to the right judge, he'll nod along.

BRADLEY!



Every now and then they'd take me out of my cage and beat at me for a while, and I would tell them the same story, and they'd throw me back.

CONGRATULATIONS.

YOU MADE BAIL.



I expected that pattern to continue for a few more days until they solved the case or killed me and let that be the solution.

In Gotham, the police kept the city clean, and the people let them do what they wanted as long as it stayed clean.



They had a vise grip on my neck.

MORNING.



Hard to imagine anyone powerful enough to pry me loose.

IT'S ALREADY THE AFTERNOON. SLAM. GET IT TOGETHER.

MR. WAYNE WANTS TO TALK TO YOU, AND I THINK HE'D PREFER YOU AT YOUR BEST.

**Written by
Tom King**

CHAPTER FOUR

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**1:25 Variant Cover by
Mikel Janín**

**Editor
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This comic contains language of a racially offensive nature and may not be suitable for all age groups. Its inclusion is an intentional creative choice intended to highlight the fact that language of this type was frequently deployed in past decades and remains in use today, even as contexts evolve. Readers for whom such language is triggering or hurtful





YOU DON'T
LOOK SO WELL,
MR. BRADLEY.

I'D SAY YOU SHOULD
SEE THE OTHER
GUY.

BUT I'M
GUESSING THE
COMMISSIONER'S
BEEN AROUND
HERE A FEW
TIMES.

I'M SURE IT'S
BEEN A THRILLING
ADVENTURE FOR
YOU.

WE'RE ALL
THE HEROES
OF OUR OWN
STORIES.

I'M SORRY ABOUT
YOUR DAUGHTER,
SIR.

SHE
DESERVED
BETTER.

HAVE A
DRINK.
THIS
WON'T TAKE
LONG.



I HAVE SPOKEN TO THE POLICE AT LENGTH ABOUT YOUR CASE. ABOUT ALL OF YOUR AND MY ACTIVITIES THESE LAST DAYS.

I HAD ONE QUESTION, ONE ASPECT OF IT, I JUST CAN'T WRAP MY HEAD AROUND.

I WAS HOPING YOU COULD CLEAR IT UP.



YOUR BAIL, YOUR DIME.

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?



WE MAKE OUR EXCHANGE: YOU, AND I, AND THIS MYSTERIOUS FEMALE NEGRO. THERE IS SOME CONFUSION AFTERWARD, SOME VIOLENCE.

I DECIDE TO WAIT, SEE IF WE HEAR FROM THE KIDNAPPERS, TO FOLLOW OUR ESTABLISHED PLANS.

SEE IF WE CAN'T CLEAR UP ANY PROBLEMS AND GET MY CHILD HOME SAFE.

AND YOU...



YOU MAKE A DIFFERENT DECISION.

YOU TRY TO FIND THEM. AND THEY...

THEY MAKE A THIRD DECISION. DON'T THEY?



THE CHILD MIGHT HAVE BEEN ALREADY DEAD FOR A DAY.

THEY DON'T KNOW.



WHY DID YOU DO IT? WHY, MR. BRADLEY?



WHY?!

CRASHHHH



WAS IT MY WIFE? DID SHE ASK YOU TO? WE FOUND SOME MONEY MISSING.

DID THAT ~~*****~~ PAY YOU TO KILL MY DAUGHTER?



YOUR WIFE HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT.
SIR.



LIAR!



I MADE A MISTAKE.

THAT'S ALL IT IS.

A MISTAKE?! DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT--



SIR, I HAVE SYMPATHY FOR YOU BECAUSE OF YOUR LOSS.

BUT I'VE BEEN SLAPPED AROUND SOME LATELY.

I'M



The problem with cops is there's no point in fighting a cop.

SLAM,
C'MON.

YOU KNOW
BETTER THAN THAT,
BUDDY.

THAT'S NOT
HOW ANY OF THIS
WORKS.



Cops don't
fight fair.

You put one fellow
down, fifteen more
are charging at you.
I was a tough enough
guy, but I couldn't
take fifteen.

GET YOUR
FILTHY HAND OFF
OF ME.



Three, on the
other hand...

GN/N



Three I
could do.





Carter, being an idiot, blindly lunged to get his weapon back.



I put a quick end to that.



But I'd taken a little too much time on this lunk. Gave Loder a chance to grab his from the ground.

ALL RIGHT, ENOUGH FUN.

PUT IT DOWN.



So everyone then had what they needed.

NO.



And no one had what they wanted.

YOU FOOL, SLAM.

LOOK AROUND YOU. LOOK AT WHERE YOU ARE.

HOW DOES THIS END?

I'M WALKING OUT OF HERE.

IF MR. WAYNE WANTS TO TALK ABOUT THE CASE OR GET MY HELP ON IT, HE CAN CALM HIMSELF DOWN AND SEE ME IN MY OFFICE.

I'D BE HAPPY TO DO WHATEVER I CAN FOR THAT LITTLE GIRL.

YOU'RE WALKING? YOU GOT A REASON I SHOULD JUST LET YOU GO, SLAM?

BECAUSE, FOR THE LIFE OF ME, I CAN'T THINK OF A DAMN ONE.

YEAH. I GOT SOME REASONS.

137 OF THEM, IF YOU'RE INTERESTED.

137? WHAT?

WHAT'S THAT?

IT AIN'T MUCH. COULD'VE BEEN MORE.

I WAS A SNIPER IN KOREA. 137 WAS MY KILL COUNT.

AT LEAST THE OFFICIAL ONE.









I'm 94 years
old now. 94.

That's plenty
of life lived.

And I can't say I'm
proud of everything
I did in that time.



But I'm not going
to hide any of it
anymore.

Everyone else
is gone.



And if I don't
tell the truth,
who will?



HE'S
BURNING
HER, YOU
KNOW.

INTO
THE OVEN.
INTO THE
URN.



HE'S GOING TO *SPRINKLE* HER ASHES
OVER THE FOUNDATION OF THE BIG NEW
FACTORY HE'S PUTTING UP ON
THE SOUTH SIDE.

PART OF MR.
WAYNE'S *GREAT GOTHAM*
RENEWAL.

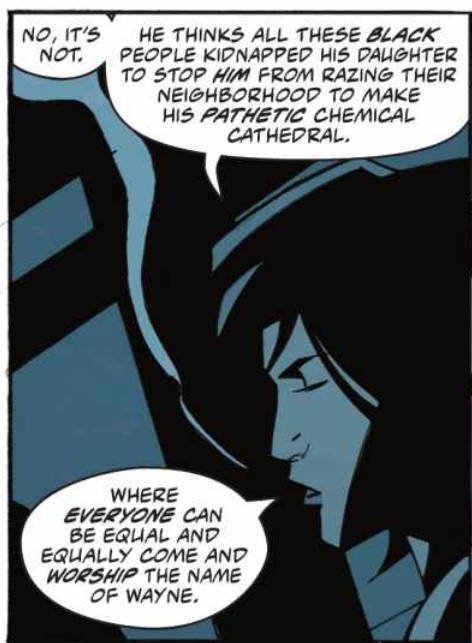
"AS THE
CITY RISES FROM
THE ASHES, SO
WILL SHE."



"SHE WAS
OUR PRINCESS.
NOW SHE'S OUR
PHOENIX."



THAT'S...
NICE.



NO, IT'S
NOT.

HE THINKS ALL THESE *BLACK*
PEOPLE KIDNAPPED HIS DAUGHTER
TO STOP HIM FROM RAZING THEIR
NEIGHBORHOOD TO MAKE
HIS *PATHETIC* CHEMICAL
CATHEDRAL.

WHERE
EVERYONE CAN
BE EQUAL AND
EQUALLY COME AND
WORSHIP THE NAME
OF WAYNE.



MAKING THE SITE
ABOUT MY HELEN,
ABOUT HONORING HER
LEGACY... IT'S REALLY
JUST A WHOLE HEAP
OF @#% YOU.

BUT THEN
WHAT DO YOU
EXPECT? THAT'S
HOW THEY TOOK THE
CITY, THIS FAMILY,
NEVER MISSING ANY
OPPORTUNITY TO...
I MEAN...

WELL, THEY
CAN'T STOP IT
NOW, CAN THEY?
NOW THAT IT'S
ALL FOR HELEN.







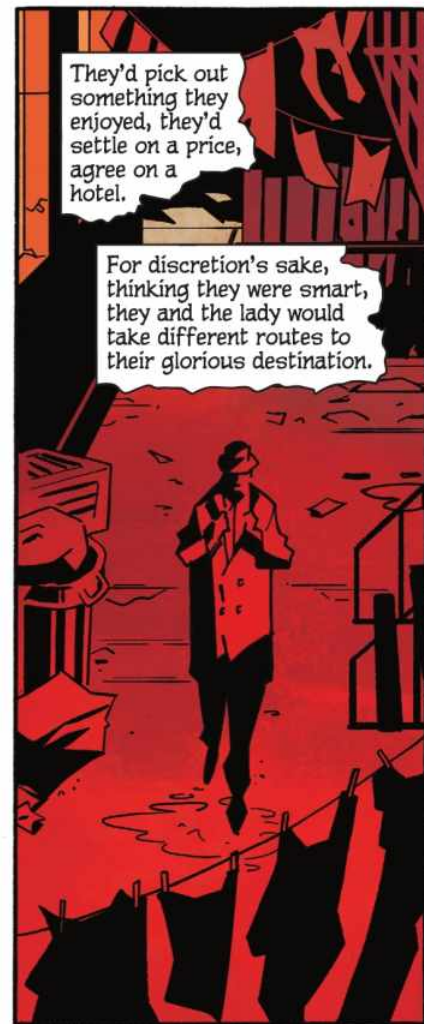


So this is how this worked.



Late on Saturdays, after their glamorous parties on the North Side, a few of Gotham's best and brightest would drive down south...

...and find themselves comfort they no longer found in their wives.



They'd pick out something they enjoyed, they'd settle on a price, agree on a hotel.

For discretion's sake, thinking they were smart, they and the lady would take different routes to their glorious destination.



I knew the pattern.
I knew the men.
I knew the women.



I went and I watched Candy make her meet, close the deal, and then walk west on Miller toward the Conway...

...while the commissioner cut through the alley.



I know how you'd do it.

You'd make it fair somehow, just. Maybe you'd even find a way to hold on to your honor.



I mean, at the least, you'd give the guy a warning.



But like I said before, you can't fight back with the police because they don't play fair.

And that day, I didn't feel like playing fair either.



I know that's not right.

We're supposed to rise above and all that.

What can I say, Bruce.

I guess you're just a better man than I am.



They found him the next morning, bloody and unconscious.

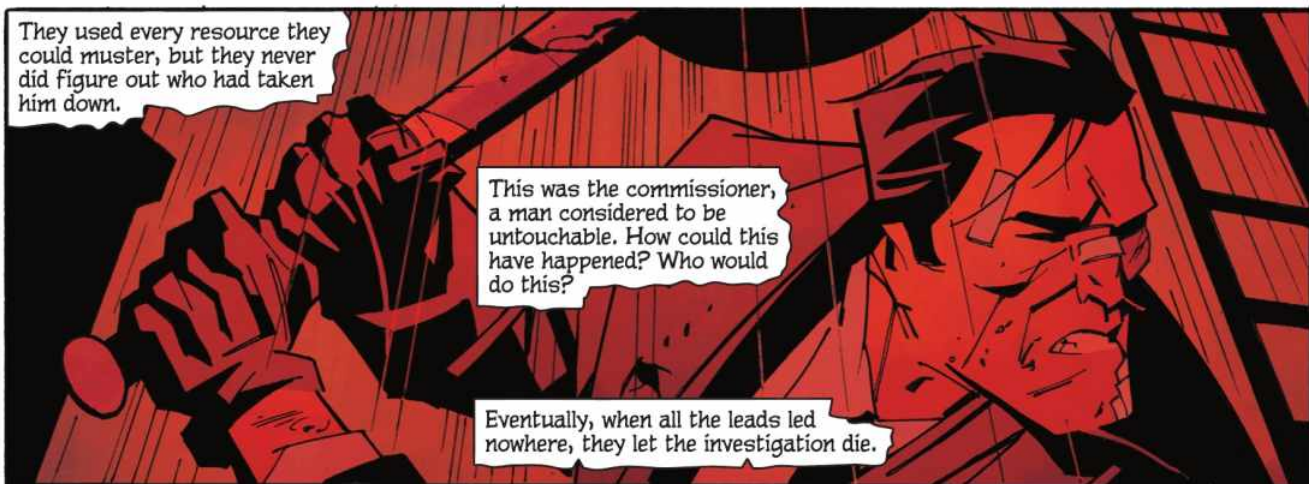
He never fully recovered, had to retire from the force because of his injuries.



He wasn't a good man, Commissioner Huff, but he was good at what he did, if you measured by how he got his job done.

There wasn't an ounce of corruption in him. All he wanted was a safe city at whatever cost needed to be paid.

After he left, murders and robberies and vice and all of it soared to heights never before seen in Gotham.



They used every resource they could muster, but they never did figure out who had taken him down.

This was the commissioner, a man considered to be untouchable. How could this have happened? Who would do this?

Eventually, when all the leads led nowhere, they let the investigation die.



Some people blamed it on where he had gone down. They said that was the only place in the city where no one was looking.

Where the most powerful man could fall and no one knew why.



People even got superstitious about it. Especially when the city started burning.

They said there, in the concrete, by a bunch of trash cans and howling cats...

... that's where it started.

There.

There was evil there.

They even gave it a name.

Crime Alley.

I took Rogers to Roussaus,
then cut over to Hamilton.

I turned right on Moldoff,
then left on Robbins, then
merged onto Goodwyn.

I watched
it all go by.



Even at this
hour, even in
this weather,
the city still
had some life
in it.

I exited at Novick, turned left on Adams,
rode it all the way to Newton, and
swung a right onto Giordano.

I stayed right onto Wein, taking
it to Toth and then hanging a left
onto Stanton, which dumped me
right onto Wolfman.

Looking back, that was
the last I laid eyes on
my Gotham.



I got home, tired
as anything.

The door was unlocked,
and I could hear someone
stirring on the other side.

I hadn't
expected her
to stay.

But you
know what
they say.

The world is full
of surprises.

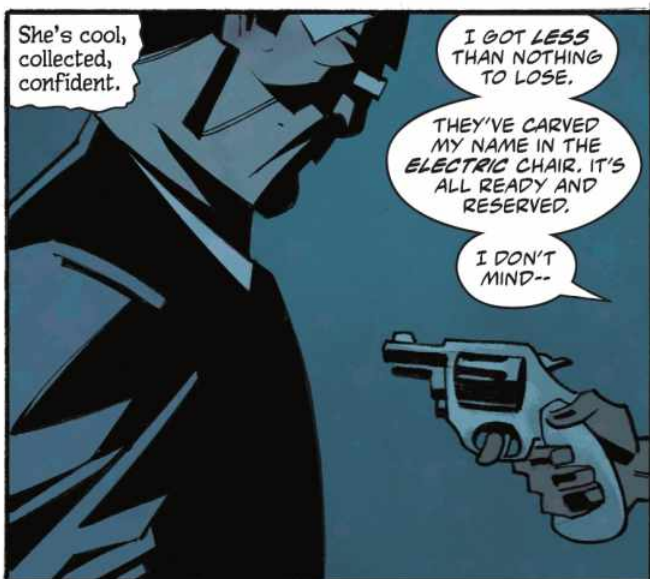
Isn't it?

HEY,
SLAM. HOW'S IT
GOING?

IT HASN'T
BEEN THAT LONG,
BUT BOY, DOESN'T IT
FEEL LIKE A
WHILE?









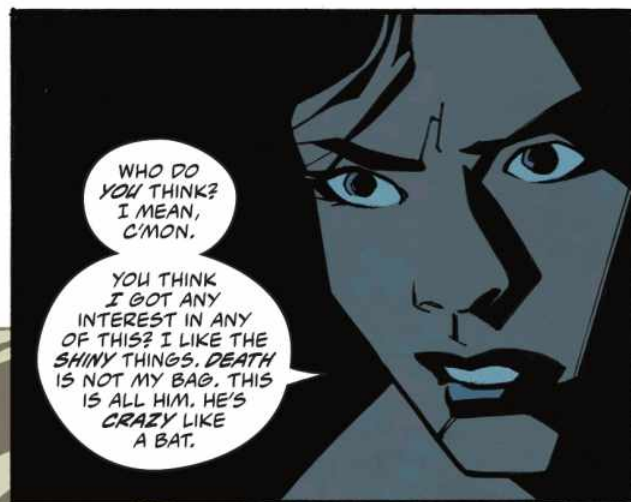
I DIDN'T KILL THAT BABY.

HE TOOK THE MONEY I WAS SUPPOSED TO GET, AND I WAS TRYING TO FIND HIM, AND THEN I READ IN THE PAPER WHAT GOT FOUND AT MY UNCLE'S HOUSE.

I GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH ANY OF THAT. IF I DID, WOULD I STILL BE ANYWHERE NEAR THIS DAMN CITY?



WHO?



WHO DO YOU THINK? I MEAN, C'MON.

YOU THINK I GOT ANY INTEREST IN ANY OF THIS? I LIKE THE SHINY THINGS. DEATH IS NOT MY BAG. THIS IS ALL HIM. HE'S CRAZY LIKE A BAT.

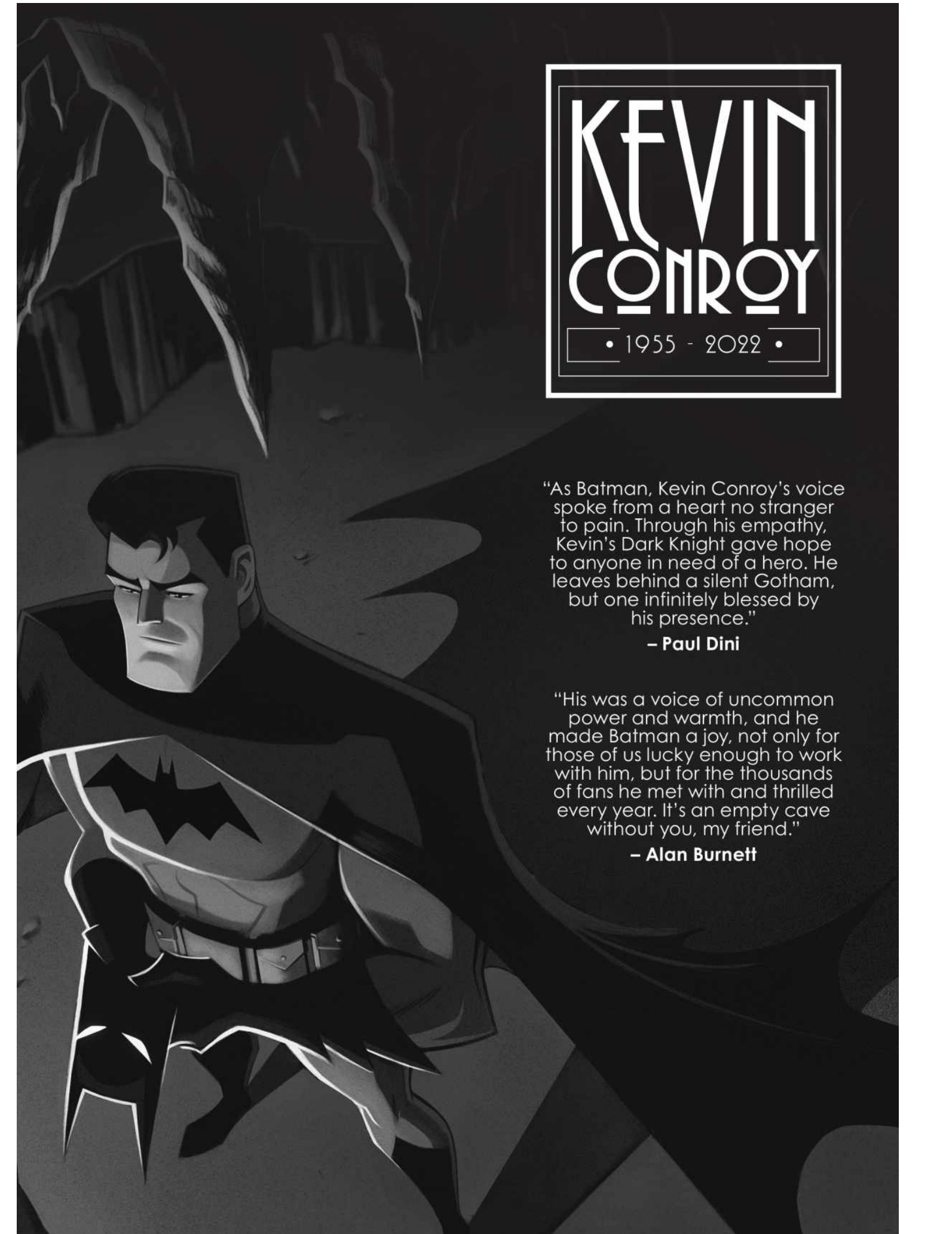


"@%#@% RICHARD WAYNE. IT'S ALL HIS FAULT."



DAMMIT.

TO BE CONTINUED!



KEVIN CONROY

• 1955 - 2022 •

"As Batman, Kevin Conroy's voice spoke from a heart no stranger to pain. Through his empathy, Kevin's Dark Knight gave hope to anyone in need of a hero. He leaves behind a silent Gotham, but one infinitely blessed by his presence."

– Paul Dini

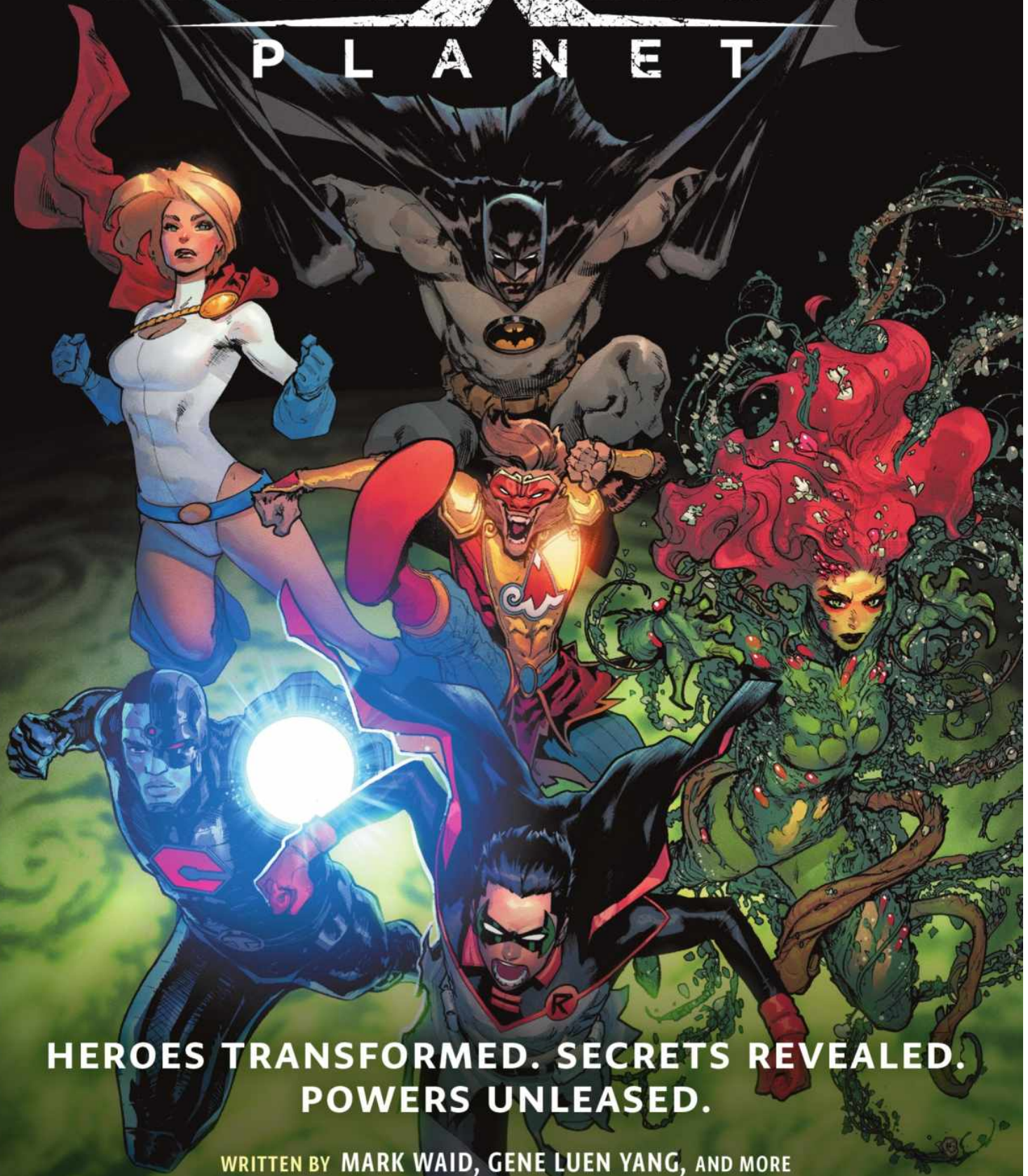
"His was a voice of uncommon power and warmth, and he made Batman a joy, not only for those of us lucky enough to work with him, but for the thousands of fans he met with and thrilled every year. It's an empty cave without you, my friend."

– Alan Burnett



DC NATION SPECIAL EDITION

DC UNIVERSE
LAZARUS
PLANET



**HEROES TRANSFORMED. SECRETS REVEALED.
POWERS UNLEASHED.**

WRITTEN BY MARK WAID, GENE LUEN YANG, AND MORE
ART BY RICCARDO FEDERICI, BILLY TAN, AND MORE



**"NEW HEROES WILL BE BORN
AND EXISTING HEROES' POWERS
WILL BE CHANGED FOREVER."**

In the climax of December's *Batman vs. Robin* #4, a Lazarus Volcano erupts, spewing dangerous and transformative chemicals into Earth's atmosphere.

"That much magic can't be contained—so when it erupts it spews out Lazarus Resin and creates a violent 'rainstorm' that covers the world," explains Mark Waid, the superstar writer and architect of the DC Universe: Lazarus Planet event.

Waid has been no stranger to the DC Universe this past year, penning the bestselling series *Batman/Superman: World's Finest* and *Batman vs. Robin*, which set the stage for this event, beginning in January's *Lazarus Planet: Alpha* #1.

"In *Batman/Superman: World's Finest*, we introduced the Devil Nezha, an ancient evil that could be contained only within the tomb on a remote island," Waid says. "Once our heroes sealed him inside, we sprung the surprise reveal—the tomb is on Lazarus Island. Then in *Batman vs. Robin*, we learn that Mother Soul, Damian's great-grandmother on his al Ghul side, has been searching for Nezha and used Damian to unleash him once more."



**"NEZHA IS A
TRICKSTER GOD WHO
OFTEN DANCES ON
THAT LINE BETWEEN
GOOD AND EVIL."**

Helping craft the two-month Lazarus Planet event alongside Waid will be *Monkey Prince* writer Gene Luen Yang. "Traditionally, Nezha is a trickster god who often dances on that line between good and evil," Yang says. "In *Batman/Superman: World's Finest*, Mark brought him into the DC Universe and specifically tied him into elements of the Batman mythos."



The Lazarus Volcano will make its rumblings known throughout the DC Universe in a series of one-shots helmed by all-star talent, including Francis Manapul, Phillip Kennedy Johnson, Leah Williams, Max Dunbar, Clayton Henry, Tim Seeley, and Marguerite Sauvage. Fan-favorite heroes throughout the DC Universe will be heavily invested in uncovering the secrets behind the Lazarus Resin.

"Power Girl is part of the team that tries to free Earth's magical artifacts from the Tower of Fate, where Nezha has imprisoned them," Waid explains. "Poison Ivy, on the other hand, is part of the team exploring one of Ra's al Ghul's mountain headquarters looking for clues to counteract the resin. Ra's was aware of her background as a brilliant biochemist who, like him, is eager to reestablish a working ecosystem before our planet succumbs to global war."

**"THE WRITERS AND ARTISTS ARE
EMBRACING THAT FREEDOM TO
DO SOME OF THE BEST WORK..."**



"The writers and artists are embracing that freedom to do some of the best work I've seen in a long time," Waid continues. "Everyone's been incredibly cooperative and willing to toss ideas back and forth to make their own stories even better."

The full scope of the story starts out in *Lazarus Planet: Alpha* and continues in the one-shot tie-ins *Lazarus Planet: Assault on Krypton*, *Lazarus Planet: We Were Once Gods*, *Lazarus Planet: Dark Fate*, *Lazarus Planet: Next Evolution*, and *Lazarus Planet: Legends Reborn*—all leading to the fateful finale in *Lazarus Planet: Omega* and the aftermath in *Lazarus Planet: Revenge of the Gods*.



After the events of Lazarus Planet, the gods of the Multiverse decide to take down the heroes they once called champions and the world they've sworn to protect.

The team of gods is led by Earth-0's wizard Shazam, who has been granted a vision from the Lazarus Resin the likes of which he has never seen before.

As if major changes to existing heroes and the introduction of all-new ones weren't enough, Lazarus Planet has a ton of surprises in store for even the most hardcore DC fan. "There's a fusion of Cyborg and Blue Beetle, a key role for Blue Devil, the mightiest bolt of Shazam lightning in history, Swamp Thing vs. Nezha, and a really, really, really ugly turn for Batman," Waid teases.

"Mark's premise for Lazarus Planet is so fun, the rest of us can't help but respond with all the creativity we can muster," Yang says. "Even as a fan, I can't wait to read what everyone's come up with."





LAZARUS RAINS DOWN!



LAZARUS PLANET: ASSAULT ON KRYPTON

Written by: Nicole Maines, C.S. Pacat, Frank Barbiere, and Leah Williams

Art by: Skylar Patridge, Scott Godlewski, Sami Basri, and Marguerite Sauvage

With the world in chaos and Lazarus raining from the skies, the Earth's protectors from Krypton are hit hard, and the heroes will never be the same again.



LAZARUS PLANET: NEXT EVOLUTION

Written by: Ram V, Brandon T. Snider, Chuck Brown, and Delilah S. Dawson

Art by: Lalit Kumar Sharma, Laura Braga, Alitha Martinez and Mark Morales, and Ro Stein and Ted Brandt

Amazing new powers have been gifted to the freedom fighters of the future. What perils will these villain-vanquishing virtuosos face alongside a brand-new legend, The Vigil?



LAZARUS PLANET: WE WERE ONCE GODS

Written by: Francis Manapul, Dan Watters, Phillip Kennedy Johnson, and Josie Campbell

Art by: Francis Manapul, Max Dunbar, Jack Herbert, and Caitlin Yarsky

The gods are in for some big changes as Lazarus rain beats down upon the Earth. Explore the Lazarus Planet's effect on DC Universe's extraordinary creatures and locations involving the Shazam Family and the Rock of Eternity.



LAZARUS PLANET: DARK FATE

Written by: Tim Seeley, Dennis Culver, A.L. Kaplan, and Alyssa Wong

Art by: Baldemar Rivas, Chris Burnham, A.L. Kaplan, and Haining

Who are the new villains created by the Lazarus rain and what heroes can stop them? A sinister threat will bring a new chapter to the Doom Patrol while a new danger lurks in the dark corners of the Spirit World for new character Xanthe?



LAZARUS PLANET: LEGENDS REBORN

Written by: Alex Segura, Greg Pak, Alex Paknadel, and Dennis Culver

Art by: Clayton Henry, Minkyu Jung, Christopher Mitten, and Jesús Merino

Heroes and villains long forgotten return! Nightwing and the new hero City Boy go on a quest to save Gotham from a surge of fantastical power that will affect the DC Universe forevermore!

LAZARUS PLANET: REVENGE OF THE GODS (COVER COMING SOON)

Written by: G. Willow Wilson

Art by: Cian Tormey & Caitlin Yarsky

The wizard Shazam has teamed up with the Quintessence to regain control of their champions. Shazam and Wonder Woman must work together and defeat the gods as they risk losing their powers for good.

DC NATION SPOTLIGHT ON

DC UNIVERSE LAZARUS PLANET CHECKLIST

JANUARY

- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: Alpha* #1
- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: Assault on Krypton* #1
- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: We Were Once Gods* #1
- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: Legends Reborn* #1
- ☐ *Monkey Prince* #10

FEBRUARY

- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: Next Evolution* #1
- ☐ *Monkey Prince* #11
- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: Dark Fate* #1
- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: Omega* #1
- ☐ *Batman vs. Robin* #5

MARCH

- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: Revenge of the Gods* #1
- ☐ *Wonder Woman* #797
- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: Revenge of the Gods* #2

APRIL

- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: Revenge of the Gods* #3
- ☐ *Wonder Woman* #798
- ☐ *Lazarus Planet: Revenge of the Gods* #4



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The Last Kryptonian-DCP

